



Royal Australian Armoured
Corps Association Inc.
(Victorian Branch)

Print Post Approved PP 381827 / 00018

TRACK

June 2020



Advance Australia

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Our Bugler Achieves Life Long Ambition



(Michael Willson)

Retired Musician **John Mansfield** realised a life long dream when he played the **Last Post** and **Rouse** at the MCG on **Anzac Day** this year. As you are all aware, the traditional clash between Essendon and Collingwood did not occur due to Covid 19 restrictions. The RSL Victorian Branch however decided to still conduct their commemorative ceremony with **State President Dr Robert Webster, OAM** reciting the *Ode to the Fallen* and John providing the musical accompaniment. During his 20 years service in the Army Reserve, it was always an ambition of John's to play his bugle on this day at the MCG. His performance as always was to his usual high standard and the bugle notes reverberated around the home of football as they did in the Shrine Sanctuary at our recent birthday commemoration.

During these trying times, your Association has become acutely aware that some of our members are finding the situation quite challenging. As a result, a **welfare subcommittee** has been established consisting of **Rod Westgarth, David Finlayson, Ian Smith and Peter Branagan**. A number of gift vouchers and cards have been sent out to those deemed for special consideration. These cards/vouchers are in addition to our normal Xmas hampers. **Please don't hesitate to contact us at any time.**



(Michael Willson)

Our Members Celebrate Anzac Day

As there were no formal parades or ceremonies across the state, all Victorians were encouraged to conduct their own driveway or front verandah ceremonies. Pictured below are some of the ways that our members commemorated Anzac Day 2020.



Kevin and Carolyn Fox - Nagambie



Craig, Anita and William Burn – *Rookview* - Sugarloaf Creek



Peter and Elizabeth Branagan – *Armourdale* - Nagambie



Membership Officer Rob Toy at his Retirement Village in Reservoir



Jimmy Peile wearing his great grandfather's medals with son Tex
at Munno Para West - South Australia

Mark Your Diary.....

2020 Kid's Christmas Party

Sunday 13 December 2020

1030 hrs

Rod Westgarth has booked **Meadmore Junction** again for this year's party at the **Diamond Valley Miniature Railway**. Come along and enjoy the fun and the bar-b-que at **this premier location in Eltham**.

We Gratefully Acknowledge the Following Donors

Peter Martin, Mark Holmes, Dick James, Graeme Moore, Jason Franken, Tony Crook, Shane O'Brien.



Our **Guest Speaker** for this year's **Cambrai Dinner** **Mrs Honor Auchinleck**, granddaughter of **General Sir Harry Chauvel** is pictured here with her husband **Colonel Mark Auchinleck (Retd)** formerly of the Scots Dragoon Guards.

Mrs Auchinleck grew up on the family property at Towong Hill near Corryong in NE Victoria. Apart from operational tours she accompanied her husband on all his postings, learning relevant languages while working in teaching, journalism and archaeological roles. She published a memoir, *Elyne Mitchell: A Daughter Remember* in 2012 about her mother and completed her doctorate in 2014 at La Trobe University.

As her grandfather's death on March 4, 1945 was before her birth, Mrs Auchinleck said during her childhood he was an enigmatic figure who looked down from George Lambert's portrait that used to hang above the mantelpiece in her grandmother's dining room. Through travels with her husband, however, she has been able to trace her grandfather's exploits.

Honor Auchinleck will be the **first woman to provide the annual address at our Cambrai Dinner in the history of the State Branch**. We look forward with great anticipation to her presence in Puckapunyal on **21 November**.

Cambrai Day Commemoration Dinner

Saturday 21 November 2020

1900 for 1930 hrs

**Hopkins Barracks Officers/Sergeants Mess
Puckapunyal**

Guest of Honour

Mrs Honor Auchinleck

Author and Historian

Granddaughter of General Sir Harry Chauvel, GCMG, KCB

Cost: \$60.00 per head for members

\$70.00 per head for non members/guests

Partners are very welcome

This function is our premier event for the year and as usual we will be providing a quality guest speaker for your enjoyment

All enquiries to:

Peter Branagan (M) 0428 576 004

Peter Axton (M) 0428 335 406

On Sunday morning enjoy a sumptuous cooked breakfast in the Chauvel Courtyard at the Officers Mess from 0800 hrs

Dress: Lounge Suit or Reefer Jacket with Miniatures
Ladies after five

Tickets posted out early September

RSVP by Friday 13 November 2020

Accommodation is available

The Arch Finlayson Memorial Scholarship

Application Form

Applicants for the Arch Finlayson Memorial Scholarship must complete this form and mail to the address detailed below. The Scholarship is available to 1st year apprentices and is valued at \$500.00. **The Scholarship is available to children and grandchildren of financial members. They must be 1st year apprentices and the scholarship is valued at \$500.00.**

Name.....

(Christian name/names)

(Surname)

Address.....

..... Post Code.....

Telephone.....

What is your apprenticeship?

Employer.....

Employer's Address

..... Post Code.....

Contact Phone Number

Registered Training Institute or TAFE.....

Name of Financial RAACA Victorian Member

Address

..... Post Code.....

Contact Phone Number.....

You will need to enclose copies of the following:

1. A brief supportive resume.
2. A copy of signed training agreement.
3. A copy of your enrolment at a registered training institute or TAFE.
4. A supporting letter from your employer.

After your application has been received, the three trustees of the fund may require you to attend a interview at a time, date and location to be advised.

Return this form together with all supporting documents to:

The Trustees

Arch Finlayson Memorial Scholarship Fund

RAACA – Victorian Branch

1 Ambleside Link

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From the Archives.....



On Saturday, 26 November 2016, His Excellency General the Honourable Sir Peter Cosgrove, AK, MC (Retd) Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia presented a new Guidon to the 4th/19th Prince of Wales's Light Horse Regiment at the School of Armour Parade Ground, Puckapuyal.

Pictured above are a number of Pony Soldiers who attended the parade.



Later that day at the RAAC Officers Mess, His Excellency assisted by Mrs Honor Auchinleck, granddaughter of General Sir Harry Chauvel and Major John Baines, RFD - SO2 Head of Corps (Projects) unveiled a sign dedicating the outside area of the Mess as the General Sir Harry Chauvel Courtyard. An 8th Light Horse Regiment replica Guidon was appropriately used for the unveiling.



Our website

www.raacavic.weebly.com

All the latest news and reviews

Open all hours.



If you have access to the internet, you should also have access to the current information on all our activities for the year like the RAACA Birthday Commemoration, AGM, Autumn/Easter Picnic & BBQ, ANZAC Day, Cambrai dinner and the Christmas picnic, any time you want it, day or night. What's more, the new site is compatible with other devices so you can access it via your smartphone, iPad or most other tablet devices that can access the Internet. If you don't know how, ask your grandkids! Sad but probably true.

Navigating the site is easy using the menu with tabs to quickly take you to the information you're looking for.

Show Off Your Association: You can still purchase RAACA branded items but we now have details, pricing and photos on the website and the order form can be downloaded from there.

If you have the time to browse, there are also loads of links to stories like what our members have been up to, photo galleries as well as back issues of Track. But more than that, we have also included links to other websites and information you might find helpful or at least of interest; things like the Army Newspaper, Military Museums and organisations.

Now you know what's there, go ahead and take a look for yourself. If you have a problem using the link above, try this [https://raacavic.weebly.com/](http://raacavic.weebly.com/)

RAACA SCHOLARSHIPS

One of the benefits your Association provides are the scholarships available to eligible children commencing or completing their Secondary education. Applicants must be the children of a financial member; unfortunately due to financial constraints, grandchildren are not eligible for either scholarship at this time.

The Victorian Branch Scholarship is currently **\$150:00 per year** for the first two years of secondary school. Applications should be forwarded to the Secretary with proof of attendance by **28 February in the first year of qualification. A follow up application is required for the second year.** You must have been a financial member of the RAACA for a **minimum of five years to apply.**

The Brigadier F.B. Hinton, MC Scholarship which was a Federal Executive Scholarship is also administered by the Victorian Branch and currently provides **\$500:00 for each of the final two years of Secondary School.** Application including proof of intent to complete years 11 and 12 to our Secretary by **30 September in the applicant's year 10.**

There are no scholastic results required, however proof of attendance must be provided on the relevant School's letterhead paper. **Applicants must be financial members.**



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Change of address

To change your mailing and/or contact details, please fill in the new information below,
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PLEASE USE BLOCK LETTERS (EXCEPT FOR E-MAIL)